1	2	3	4	5
23	Uttar Pradesh	18409.21	102871.22	77967.46
24	West Bengal	2754.66	63023.42	39462.63
25	Chhattisgarh	4470.60	84088.78	66882.16
26	Jharkand	56914.69	98220.95	71155.13
27	Uttranchal	38868.84	7105.31	4849.7
	TOTAL:	864085.54	1207355.57	882335.55

* 0 denote non-reporting by concerned States

ARWSP scheme in Kerala

2418. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) schemes in Kerala undertaken with the assistance of Central Government;

(b) if so, the details of such schemes as on today, category-wise;

(c) the total revised estimates for the above schemes and the total Central assistance as on today, category-wise;

(d) whether the Competent Anthority of Kerala sought higher allocation for completion of the scheme within three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The primary responsibility of providing drinking water in rural area rests with the State Governments. The Government of India supplements efforts made by the States by providing financial and technical assistance under a centrally sponsored programme, namely Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The allocation under ARWSP is based on well-defined parameters *viz.* rural population, geographical conditions, number of Not Covered (NC)/Partially Covered (PC) habitations and water quality status. However, State Governments are empowered to plan, sanction and implement drinking water schemes. Therefore, scheme wise details/records for ARWSP are maintained by respective States at their level.

(c) to (e) The total central allocation for the State under ARWSP for 2007-08 is Rs. 86.56 crore. A request was received from Managing Director, Kerala Water Works Authority for reimbursement of Rs. 713.58 lakh for excess expenditure incurred during 2004-05 and 2005-06. Since guidelines do not provide for reimbursement of excess expenditure, the State Government was informed accordingly. The State Government was requested to submit proposal for release of additional funds, which can be considered after reviewing physical/financial

progress of the State in the last quarter of the financial year. No such proposal was received from the State Government.

Annual conference on rural water supply and sanitation

2419. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Prime Minister while inaugurating Two day annual conference on rural water supply and sanitation warned about severe water shortage in the next few decades and advocated collective action by all State Governments to empower district level institutional structures to handle water supply, fund water recharge activities through NREGA and capacity building of health engineering departments in geo-hydrology so that they are able to appreciate issue of environmental sustainability;

(b) the decision taken in the conference; and

(c) the steps taken to implement them and also to improve the water shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The important issues which were stressed during the conference are as follows:

- State Governments are to ensure sustainability in drinking water sources both surface and ground water to prevent slippage in terms of quality and quantity of drinking water supply;
- Need for effective convergence with other government,programmes like NREGA, Water and Soil Conservation, Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF);
- Dovetailing of funds with the grants provided under the XII Finance Commission;
- Promotion of cost-effective technologies and revival of traditional water bodies and drinking water sources; Regular updation of progress on online monitoring system, and Improved data management for planning and implementation of projects.

(c) As a follow up, the following steps have been taken to implement and improve the water shortage:

- The theme document ensuring sustainability of drinking water has already been circulated to all the States.
- The theme document contained several cost effective and traditional technologies for reviving surface water as well as under ground water sources.
- Several brainstorming sessions have been held with State Governments to popularize these technologies.